

REMARKS

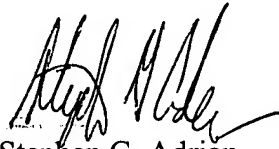
The above amendment is believed to place the claims in proper condition for examination.
Early and favorable action is awaited.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

In the event there are any additional fees required, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADEIN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 4-10 have been amended as follows:

4. (Amended) The nitrile group-containing highly saturated copolymer rubber according to [any one of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, wherein the sum of monomer units (c) and monomer units (d) is in the range of 50 to 80% by weight.

5. (Amended) The nitrile group-containing highly saturated copolymer rubber according to [any one of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, wherein the sum of monomer units (c) and monomer units (d) is in the range of 55 to 75% by weight.

6. (Amended) The nitrile group-containing highly saturated copolymer rubber according to [any one of claims 1 to 5] claim 1, which is a product prepared by hydrogenating a copolymer of 1, 3-butadiene, an α , β -ethylenically unsaturated nitrile monomer, and a monomer copolymerizable with 1,3-butadiene and the α , β -ethylenically unsaturated nitrile monomer.

7. (Amended) The nitrile group-containing highly saturated copolymer rubber according to [any one of claim 1 to 6] claim 1, wherein α , β -ethylenically unsaturated nitrile monomer is selected from acrylonitrile, α -chloroacrylonitrile, α -bromoacrylonitrile, methacrylonitrile and

ethacrylonitrile.

8. (Amended) The nitrile group-containing highly saturated copolymer rubber according to [any one of claims 1 to 7] claim 1, which has a number average molecular weight of 10,000 to 2,000,000.

9. (Amended) A crosslinkable rubber composition comprising 100 parts by weight of the nitrile group-containing highly saturated copolymer rubber as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 8] claim 1, and 0.1 part to 10 parts by weight of a sulfur-containing crosslinking agent or 0.5 part to 8 parts by weight of an organic peroxide crosslinking agent.

10. (Amended) A crosslinked rubber product made by crosslinking the crosslinkable rubber composition as claimed in claim[6 or 7] 9.